

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

The Finest! To Perform Original Work

Multi-talented Rockville Resident Writes Play for Ninth Annual African American Heritage Production: "A Change Gon' Come"

You name it – Kashi-Tara has probably done it.

Singer, songwriter, director, writer, choreographer, Master's student and teacher – this Rockville resident has earned national fame with her talent: Performing in the Lilith Festival, appearing on "Late Night with David Letterman" and singing in Shaquille O'Neal's "Kazaam," among many, many other accolades.

But one accomplishment of which Kashi-Tara is most proud is right here in her hometown – Rockville's The Finest! Youth Performance Troupe.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Kashi-Tara will co-direct with another nationally known performer, Kelly Chauncey, the debut of "A Change Gon' Come." The play, most timely for Black History Month, is about the Under-

ground Railroad and the life of Harriet Tubman. The play was written by Kashi-Tara – who has been with the group since its inception in 1989 – specifically for The Finest! and will be the group's first full play.

"They are ready for this," said Kashi-Tara. "They have evolved and are ready for more. And I have grown with them. I have been writing more and I wanted to share this with them."

The Ninth Annual African American Heritage Production will include sharpened performances by 23 of the area's most talented youth, including Veronica Thomas, who has been performing with The Finest! since she was 6.

"And now she's ready to graduate high school," said Karen Rawlins of the City's Department of Recreation and Parks and Supervisor/Producer of the group. "Veronica



Kashi-Tara provides instruction to members of 'The Finest!' in preparation of the Ninth Annual African American Heritage Production, which takes place Feb. 7.

has been dedicated all of these years and her talents really show. All the kids do a superb job. Especially Syri Parker, the 15-year-old Rockville High student who plays Harriet."

Students with The Finest! re-

ceive extensive training in dance, acting and other areas to sharpen their artistic talents through city classes and Kham-Kam Productions, founded by Kashi-Tara and Chauncey, who performed together as children

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(including separately on "The Cosby Show") and reunited as adults to give back to the community.

Several students of Kashi-Tara and Chauncey have been selected by audition to attend the famed Duke Ellington High School of the Arts in Washington, D.C., including Rockville's Dreama Dyson, who will perform in this year's production.

Tickets for "A Change Gon' Come" are \$10 (general admission) and \$7 (ages 12-under and 60-over). Call 240-314-8690 for tickets.

For more information regarding the performance call 240-314-8633. [RR](#)

Tuck Parrish Named Acting City Manager

Search Begins To Replace Former City Manager Pentz

The Mayor and Council of Rockville on Monday, Jan. 12, appointed Catherine Tuck Parrish as acting city manager. Tuck Parrish will serve during the search period for a replacement for W. Mark Pentz, who resigned after 5 1/2 years to become city manager of Chandler, Ariz.

Tuck Parrish, who has been Rockville's assistant city manager since spring 2001, has 13 years of experience in local government including 2 1/2 years as an assistant to the county executive of Fairfax County. From 1996-98, she was the senior manager for local government programs/ethics advisor for the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the local government programs manager for



Catherine Tuck Parrish (right) was named acting City Manager for the City on Jan. 12, the final day for W. Mark Pentz in Rockville.

ICMA from 1994-96. She also previously worked in the Texas cities of Denton and University Park.

Pentz, 54, whose tenure as Rockville City Manager included the critical negotiations and securing of funding that

will lead to the creation of the new Rockville Town Center, came to Rockville in June 1998. A career employee in government management, he previously served for 10 years as city manager in Leavenworth, Kan. [RR](#)



CHRISTOPHER KROEKER AND JOHN MIERS HONORED...
During the City's 32 annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration for their contributions in the name of civil rights. The celebration was held on Monday, Jan. 19 at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. See Page 6 for details.

February's Best of Rockville

Feb. 1

Glenview Mansion Art Offerings. Art by Rockville's Murray Stein and exhibits by Aylene Fallah, and Abby Freeman. Music on Feb. 1, 2-3 p.m., by Maggie Sansone and Rockville's Sue Richards. Free. 240-314-8682.

Feb. 8

Fifth Annual Bridal Expo. Glenview Mansion. 12 noon to 4 p.m. Multiple wedding vendors will be in attendance. Call for tickets 240-314-8660



Feb. 13

Twinbrook Family Valentine's Dance. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. Free to members of the center. Otherwise tickets are \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-residents. See page 6.

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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The City's Forestry Department responded to more than 400 calls for tree-related problems as a result of Hurricane Isabel alone.

Taking Care of Trees

Most Rockville residents are aware 2003 was a difficult year in terms of weather. But many may not be aware how difficult it was for trees.

Having endured two previous years of drought, which stressed many trees beyond their limits, Rockville's urban trees last year were subjected to unusually wet conditions, high winds and a hurricane.

Partially as a result of these weather conditions, the Parks and Facilities Forestry Division received more than 1,400 work requests in 2003. Of those requests, more than 400 calls came in for Hurricane Isabel-related tree problems. Many of the calls were for private trees or portions of private trees that

had fallen into the City's right-of-way or had fallen onto overhead lines. As the City is responsible for clearing the right-of-way in these circumstances, a significant amount of staff time was spent on private tree clean up.

"There's a number of things people can do in terms of tree maintenance," said City Forester Susan Nolde. "But when it comes to reducing power outages and storm-related damages, pruning [trimming] is by far the most effective way for residents to invest their money. Fertilizing, mulching and watering are definitely good maintenance for trees, but the greatest effect would come from pruning."

Not only can practicing routine tree maintenance reduce the time, money and effort spent in clearing right-of-ways of downed private trees, but this type of maintenance also can help reduce the number of power outages due to downed trees.

Residents may be able to identify dying or damaged tree branches, but Nolde encourages residents to have their trees inspected and maintained by a certified arborist who is a Maryland Licensed Tree Expert on a regular basis.

Certified arborists will recognize and remedy problems before they become disasters. Trained arborists can diagnose diseased, stressed and damaged trees in time to take effective action before a storm hits. Even a perfectly healthy tree may be a candidate for pruning to thin the crown, shorten branches or provide clearance around structures such as power lines.

"Residents should always ask for proof of proper insurance coverage, including personal and property insurance, when hiring any arborist," Nolde said. "It is also wise to obtain two to three written estimates and ask for references."

Residents with questions about proper tree maintenance can contact the City's forestry division at 240-314-8700. **RR**

The Joy of Giving

Appreciation for the City of Rockville's annual Holiday Drive was at an all-time high when one 73-year-old recipient was overcome with emotion at the presents she was given.

"She cried the entire time and kept saying, 'You are angels ...' in Spanish," said Pam Thompson of Minibar Systems, the company that sponsored the elderly woman identified by the City as in need of assistance.

Employees from Minibar Systems put a tree in their office lobby, and hung tags on it with gift ideas ranging from "one pair of white socks" to a "\$75 gift certificate to Bed, Bath and Beyond" so that everyone could participate in family sponsorship. The company itself donated a \$300 food gift certificate, and among the gifts given was a new television set.

Overall, the City of Rockville's Holiday Drive provided food and toys for children to 691 families in December. This effort followed an equally successful distribution of 807 Thanksgiving baskets in November.

In December, 97 families had individual volunteer sponsors (like the woman described above) who provided food and gifts for the family. The City also sponsored a "Secret Toy Shop" where parents chose a donated toy for each of their children.

Many individuals and groups donated time and talent to make this year's Holiday Drive successful. The City received substantial financial donations from the Venable Foundation, Realty

Capital Partners and E.U. Car-ing. Bankers Funding Corporation and its sister company, American Home Title, sponsored several families directly with generous donations.

Individual departments of Shady Grove Adventist Hospital sponsored 18 families. Saint John the Evangelist School in Silver Spring had all of its classes and staff participate in sponsoring 12 large Rockville families.

Employees from the Rockville office of Merrill Lynch and their families assisted in setting up Rockville's Secret Toy Shop and donated many toys.

"You are angels..."

— One recipient of gifts from the Annual Rockville Holiday Drive

Lydian Wealth Management employees joined other volunteers in serving as escorts for the Secret Toy Shop and provided gift paper and supplies.

Children's toys for the Secret Toy Shop also were provided by Toys for Tots, Faith United Methodist Church, Kim Studio, Farmland Elementary School, Fallsmead Elementary School and St. Elizabeth Church.

Many employee groups banded together to sponsor individual families, including: The American College of Cardiology, Amisys Managed Care Systems, Inc., the American Association of Plant Biologists, SAS, Westat, Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR), the Food and Drug Administration, Montgomery Hospice, Robert Pence Remodeling, Pro Mark Real Estate, Kim Studio, Printing Images, Inc., IBM, Human Genome Sciences, Rockville Rotary, Lifework Strategies and Photo Communications. **RR**



Focus on FITNESS FACILITIES

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, "Focus On" will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

By February of each year, many New Year's resolutions of fitness have either gone very well, or not gone at all.

For those who may need a little boost to keep their resolutions in tact, the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center has a jewel of a program available free to any fitness member.

Twice each week certified personal trainer Chris Klopfer is available to show newcomers how to use the equipment at Twinbrook's fitness center. Even more, Klopfer will design an exercise program to meet the needs of individual members.

"I like teaching people how to use equipment properly, emphasizing correct form," Klopfer said. "The most important thing, though, is making sure people are setting realistic goals for themselves. That's the best way to ensure that people stick with a fitness program."

In addition to fitness, Klopfer can also provide nutrition advice, which is a necessary complement to any successful exercise routine.



Certified Personal Trainer Chris Klopfer (right) assists Twinbrook Community Recreation Center member and Rockville resident Joan Miller on one of the many Twinbrook weight machines.

"Just starting with the basics," Klopfer said, "everything should be done in moderation. That includes nutrition. Developing good habits tend to become second nature."

That is how Twinbrook regular Joan Miller has maintained her schedule.

"In the winter I like to come four times each week," said Miller, 75, who is a longtime Rockville resident. "It's been just right for me. And you can't beat the price."

Compared to most gyms in the area, users find that the Twinbrook fitness center membership cost of \$135 per year is a great bargain.

Plus, with the membership, Klopfer's training services are included and she is available Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30

p.m. and Thursdays by appointment. For a separate fee, members can actually schedule more comprehensive, one-on-one training sessions with Klopfer, who also provides training at the Rockville Senior Center twice weekly.

"I actually had a woman thank me for showing her that exercise didn't have to hurt," Klopfer said. "That's why I'm here. I want people to enjoy exercise." **RR**

Special February Programs for Fitness Center Members:

- **FEB. 20:** Body Fat Testing, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **FEB. 24:** Body Fat Testing, 9:30-11 a.m.
- **FEB. 27:** Strength Training Class, 12 noon-12:30 p.m. (every Tuesday)



SILVER CRUISIN' ... Residents will soon see a new look with the Rockville Police cars. Through the normal aging turnover process, the current white cars will be replaced with silver ones (left), giving Rockville Police a distinctive presence.



Lifeguard Certification Classes

Two sessions at the Rockville Municipal Swim Center:

- **May 1-13:** Tuesdays through Thursdays (6-10 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- **May 15-27:** Tuesdays through Thursdays (6-10 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Must be at least 15 years and 9 months by end of course. \$150. Call Beth Fowler at 240-314-8754 for info.



Anyone traveling along West Montgomery Avenue may have noticed an area of land cleared with a sign indicating the development of 'Thirty Oaks.' (Sign pictured above to the right.) The progress of the residential area depends on important dates approaching in February.



Thirty Oaks on Route 28

New Development Underway Along W. Montgomery Ave.

Driving along the Historic District on West Montgomery Avenue in Rockville long meant passing a large property whose front was guarded by huge trees. In recent weeks, however, this property, which was identified by an indelible "Thirty Oaks" sign, has taken on a much different appearance.

The former Buckingham property, a five-acre parcel, is being developed as the Thirty Oaks subdivision by Elm Street Development (developer) and NV Homes (builder of houses). Thirty Oaks is the name Dr. Buckingham (a veterinarian) had on the original property. The property is being developed with 11 new single-family houses, with two of the three existing houses remaining, for a total of 13.

There will be three houses that face West Montgomery Avenue that will have access from the interior of the site,

not West Montgomery.

The Mayor and Council approved a Planned Residential Unit (PRU) development plan on Oct. 14, 2002. The Planning Commission subsequently approved a detailed application plan on June 25, 2003, which dealt with the details of the development.

As part of the conditions of approval, the three houses that front on West Montgomery Avenue have been incorporated into the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District. These three houses are required to receive Historic District Commission (HDC) approval before construction of houses can begin. The HDC is currently reviewing plans for those houses. A final approval is scheduled at the HDC meeting of Feb. 15.

The balance of the houses need Planning Commission approval – a meeting is tenta-

tively scheduled for Feb. 28.

Should these requirements be met, construction of the West Montgomery Avenue houses could begin in late March.

Work began in early November, including clearing of the land. As part of the approved plan, the trees along West Montgomery Avenue are to be removed, but the developer is saving a one-half acre parcel of the oldest, most significant trees on the site and dedicating it as a City park. There also will be significant new landscaping. **RR**

NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Historic District Commission meeting for project approval on Feb. 15.
- ✓ Planning Commission meeting approval tentatively scheduled for Feb. 28.

KSI Plans Deferred

A proposal to build two connected buildings — one 10 stories and one seven stories — in Rockville's downtown has been deferred for further revision by the City's Planning Commission.

At its meeting on Jan. 14, Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo asked the seven-member Planning Commission to reject the proposal as submitted by KSI Services. The plan would demolish the current 40-year-old, five-story building on the corner of North Washington Street and Beall Avenue that currently houses a Bank of America office on its ground floor.

The KSI proposal would build a total of 352 housing units on 2.3 acres in the two new buildings, including 109 condominiums. A drive-through bank would be part of the lower level of one building and the proposal would include seven "convertible loft" apartment units that can become commercial space once Maryland Avenue is extended north of Beall.

The application was under special scrutiny because KSI asked to develop under the City's "optional method of develop-



The building at 255 N. Washington St. was the topic of a recent Planning Commission meeting.

ment." This potentially allows buildings to exceed standard height requirements. Under this optional method, building heights may be allowed to increase by three stories, from 75 feet to 100 feet, or 10 stories. Mayor Giammo and some commission members did not feel the additional height and resulting density was appropriate.

After the current plan was rejected by the commission, KSI requested and was granted permission to work with City planning staff and community members to revise the plan and resubmit it. No timetable was set for reconsideration. **RR**

Smoking Ban Effective Feb. 1

Rockville's Mayor and Council adopted an ordinance that bans smoking in City restaurants and bars beginning Feb. 1.

The Rockville legislation follows the Montgomery County ban that took effect on Oct. 9, but did not apply to independent jurisdictions such as Rockville. Legislation passed by the Mayor and Council in December selected the Feb. 1 start date to give the affected businesses an oppor-

tunity to comply.

At their General Session of Oct. 27, the Mayor and Council took the first step toward allowing Montgomery County's smoking ban in restaurants and bars to apply in Rockville by introducing smoking policy legislation. In November, the Mayor and Council held a public hearing on the proposal. More than 40 people spoke on the issue, with widely varying opinions. **RR**

Pay Attention: More Meters Are Here

The first of 394 new parking meters around Rockville are in place, and starting Jan. 26, tickets will be issued for violations near the Twinbrook Metro Station. Starting in mid to late February, tickets will be issued for violations of new meters installed in other areas of the city.

The parking meter program has two major long-term benefits for the city. Because parking is scarce in some areas of Rockville, meters encourage more rapid turnover of parking spaces. This is particularly important to merchants. In addition, the revenue generated by the meters and associated fines will sup-

port the building of public parking garages in the new Town Center.

Commuters should be particularly aware of meters on some streets that are not in the traditional position immediately adjacent to the curb. Because of the design of some older, narrow sidewalks, meters were placed on the opposite side of the sidewalk to allow at least four feet of space for adequate pedestrian and wheelchair access. Extensive signage warns users of the parking regulations.

Two-hour meters will be in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except City and State holidays. Twelve-hour meters will be

in effect from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The rates at all meters will be 50 cents per hour.

The meters should have a significant impact near the Twinbrook Metro area, which has seen many parking spaces occupied all day by commuters looking to avoid paying parking fees in the lot adjacent to the station. All of the meters in this area will have 12-hour availability on streets including Bouic Avenue, Chapman Avenue (from Halpine Road to Twinbrook Parkway), Halpine Road (from Route 355 to Chapman); and Thompson Avenue (from Route 355 to Chapman and Chapman to the dead end).

The new meters can accept



Parkers should be aware of new meters in the City of Rockville that are located across the sidewalk.

quarters or new prepaid parking cards. These cards will be convenient for regular parkers in Rockville and can be pur-

chased at City Hall.

For more information on the City's parking meters, call 240-314-8910. **RR**

Bike Donations Riding A Long Way

All Types of Used Bicycles Have Second Life of More Than Just Fun

Throughout the year, the City gratefully accepts donations of bicycles in fair condition that can be used for specific purposes. Many people have generously donated – but many do not know the impact their donation has made in the community.

For example, this fall the City's Bikeway Coordinator Jeff Radan and members of the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee, including Chairperson Barry Klein, brought 20 community-donated bicycles to the Community Ministries of Rockville. In coordination with the City's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, the bicycles will be used by the men and women in the housing programs to use as an alternate means of transportation and for recreation.

Radan and Klein also conducted a class at the Chase Partnership House men's shelter of Community Ministries on bicycle safety and repair. Helmets also were provided.

"These bikes are so appreciated," said Darrell Butler, Housing Programs Director of Community Ministries of Rockville. "People might think, 'What's the big deal? It's just a bike,' but they don't realize what these bikes mean for us."

Butler said that with the newly donated bikes, he will be able to resurrect the recreational ride component of the housing program. He had previously organized rides with old bikes. But the bikes were in such bad condition it was hard to keep the rides going.

"Now, everyone is already geared up for the spring and



Used bicycles recently were donated to the Community Ministries of Rockville by the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee. Pictured from left to right are Barry Klein (Chairperson of the Bicycle Advisory Committee), Naaman Foster (Director of the Chase Partnership House) and Rockville Bicycle Coordinator Jeff Radan.

summer," Butler said. "It's a component of their total rehabilitation. Staying active makes a huge difference."

Projects like this would not be possible without the work of the Bicycle Advisory Committee, which consists of approximately 12 members. The group has been working on several ongoing projects since the committee was formed in 1998. The

committee has dedicated countless hours to ensure Rockville is a bike-friendly City by working on the Bikeway Master Plan, organizing community rides, promoting bicycle and safety education in schools and collecting donated bikes.

The next major project for the committee is organizing the annual bicycle collection for the CHARACTER COUNTS!™ program

that promotes good character and citizenship to children. Donated bicycles will be awarded to children who achieve their program goals.

Although children's bikes are primarily needed for the CHARACTER COUNTS!™ program, all types of bikes for all ages are being accepted.

"Any bike is a good bike," Klein said. "We can use hybrids, street bikes and mountain bikes for adults and children. We are hoping to expand the bike donation program to community centers in the near future, so all bikes are appreciated."

The only requirement is that the bicycles are usable, and if repairs are needed, that they are only minor.

Donated bicycles (tax deductible) can be dropped off at the Croydon Creek Nature Center (852 Avery Road) Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and on Sundays from 1-5:30 p.m.

For more information on bike donations or joining the Bicycle Advisory Committee, contact Radan at 240-314-8626. **RR**



Community Services Officer Jan Seilhamer demonstrates how the City's free gun locks are properly used. Rockville's Police Department currently has 800 gun locks available for public distribution.

Free Gun Locks

As part of a multimillion-dollar federal grant program, Rockville currently has 800 gun locks to distribute to the public, free of charge and no questions asked.

"This is such a benefit," said Community Services Officer Jan Seilhamer. "Any help that we can get to promote gun safety and responsible storage of firearms is a positive thing for the community. Gun locks like these can be very costly. We are more than happy to give them away."

The gun locks were provided to police departments on the East Coast thanks to "Project Childsafe," a national program that promotes gun safety. Support for the grant was provided by the United States Department of Justice

and by the National Shooting Sports Organization.

Locks are available for pickup at the Rockville City Police Department (111 Maryland Ave.). The cable-style locks will fit just about any type of firearm, and require that the gun is unloaded – increasing safety even more. The number of locks given to an individual only depends on how many firearms he or she has.

"The most important thing is that anyone who has a gun has, and uses, a lock," she said. "Distributing these locks is one proactive way for us to reduce the risk of accidents."

For more information on the program, or to schedule a pickup, contact Seilhamer at 240-314-8978. **RR**

New Floors and More in 2004

The new year will bring significant changes to the Rockville Senior Center.

There is new carpeting throughout the building and the 1,700 members can look forward to a newly designed dining room and kitchen. Energy-saving improvements are being made, including new lighting fixtures. And the center, which charges members only \$25 per year and often is called a model for senior centers in Maryland, also will offer a number of new programs in 2004.

Funds for the renovations of the kitchen and dining room, which include upgrades for the snack bar, will come partly from a \$99,375 grant from the Maryland Department of Aging while \$30,000 from the Rockville Seniors, Inc. (RSI), will be used. RSI presented the City with a \$40,000 check from funds raised throughout the year to go toward the renovations and other programs.

"Rockville Seniors has already contributed more than \$100,000 through the years to bring changes to different rooms around the Senior Center," said Ron Barber, president of Rockville Seniors. "Since the nutritional program has gotten so large, we wanted to help in the expansion of the dining room and the kitchen remodeling."

In addition to the physical changes, the education program, which is co-sponsored by the Montgomery College Lifetime



Rockville Seniors, Inc., President Ron Barber presents Mayor Larry Giammo with a check for \$40,000 for Senior Center renovations (above). The Senior Center will see many upgrades in 2004, including the newly installed carpeting (bottom photo).

Learning Institute, will offer a four-week course in March on "The Real Stories Behind History's Important Events." The expanding fine arts program will feature classes in glass fusing and watercolor. Two levels of woodworking classes will be offered in the center's reno-

vated wood shop. The offerings of social, health and computer classes (including digital photography) also will grow.

Day trips will be publicized in Rockville's Spring Recreation and Park Guide. Call 240-314-8800 for information. **RR**

— Contributed by Mary Robbins

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the
City Government at Work



WALKING WITH THE LIGHT . . . Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo (left) leads a contingent across Twinbrook Parkway to Twinbrook Community Center on Wed., Jan. 21, for the unveiling of the first lighted crosswalk in Montgomery County. Those also crossing among a pack of spectators and media were (left to right) Rockville Councilmember Bob Dorsey, County Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee Chair Jackie Gillan, and Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan. The County paid for installation of this crosswalk. The City of Rockville paid for another lighted crosswalk that went into operation Jan. 23rd on Chapman Avenue near the Twinbrook Metro Station.



ROCKVILLE DAY IN ANNAPOLIS ... Each year the Rockville Mayor and Council and members of the City staff visit state legislators in Annapolis to share information and ideas about Rockville. This year's event will be Thursday, Feb. 26. Pictured above during last year's event are (from left to right) Rockville Councilmember John Hall, Jr., Delegate Luiz R.S. Simmons and Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo.

Mayor and Council Set To Score with Goals

Rockville's Mayor and Council established an ambitious set of goals for the previous two years — and most have been met or are in the process of being accomplished. Now, the same group of five, all of whom were reelected in November 2003, are working toward establishing goals for their next term that touch all Rockville residents.

The goal-setting process has already begun with several worksessions in which the Mayor and Council have sought to narrow a wide wish list into priorities. In getting the list into focus, factors being considered include the range of impact on the City, the resources available to accomplish the goal, whether the project is time sensitive and the overall cost.

On Monday, Feb. 2, the public can hear how the priorities are taking shape at a Mayor and Council budget worksession starting at 7 p.m. at City Hall (televised live on TRC 11). On Tuesday, Feb. 10, the Mayor and Council will meet with a group of residents in a Citizens Summit at Glenview Mansion. Those attending the summit will have an opportunity to address the goals the Mayor and Council are proposing, as well as suggest additions to the list.

In the coming weeks, the Mayor and Council likely will organize their priorities into five major categories. These categories will center on:

- Creating a vibrant Town Center
- Ensuring that new development Citywide improves Rockville's quality of life
- Strengthening neighbor-

hoods and a sense of community

- Delivery of superior performance by City government
- Improving public safety, pedestrian safety and transportation

The specific items that probably will be targeted for the highest priority include items relating to Town Center, including creating safe, convenient parking and seeking funding from the State of Maryland to help pay for parking structures; adopting an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that will limit new growth if roads, schools and other infrastructure is overburdened; developing a plan to keep neighborhoods looking great through enforcement of property maintenance codes; and continued programs to protect pedestrians.

After looking at the original list of possible items suggested by all members of the Mayor and Council, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann said, "When I looked at this list, I first said, 'Wow!' With so many things underway, how could we possible take on anymore?"

Councilmember Anne Robbins said she appreciated how much had been accomplished in the previous two years and the desire to do more. But she wanted to keep the wish list in perspective.

"For whatever we want to do," she said, "I just want to make sure we have the money to do it." **RR**

NEXT STEP

- ✓ Mayor and Council Budget Worksession, Feb. 2, 7 p.m.

FY05 Budget Dates

- Feb. 2:** Budget worksession
- Feb. 17:** Budget worksession
- April 12:** Copy of proposed budget presented to Mayor and Council
- April 19:** Budget Public Hearing
- May 3:** Budget Public Hearing
- May 11:** Budget worksession
- May 18:** Budget worksession
- May 24:** Budget worksession
- June 7:** Optional budget worksession
- June 14:** Budget adoption



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:45 p.m. on Mondays (unless otherwise noted) when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled for February are:

- **Feb. 9:** Susan Hoffmann
- **Feb. 17:** Anne Robbins
- **Feb. 23:** Bob Dorsey

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel, and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Feb. 2 (Mon.)** Worksessions (preliminary budget issues and Mayor and Council goals), 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 9 (Mon.)** General Session, 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 10 (Tues.)** Citizen Summit regarding Mayor and Council goals at Glenview Mansion, 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 12 (Thur.)** Worksession (Town Center parking and financing), 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 17 (Tues.)** Worksessions (Budget issues and stormwater management fund fiscal analysis), 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 18 (Wed.)** Worksession (with Planning Commission regarding Town Center), 7 p.m.
- **Feb. 23 (Mon.)** General Session and Worksession (Mayor and Council Goals), 7 p.m.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Animal Matters Board (one)
- Commission on Environment (two)
- Cultural Arts Commission (one)
- Human Rights Commission (two)
- Landlord/Tenant (one/tenant)
- Traffic & Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.

Art Proposal No Longer Parked in Neutral

A modification to a key element of the proposed "Public Art in Private Development" program quickly gained consensus approval and seems to have the program headed for approval by Rockville's Mayor and Council.

The program would greatly enhance the aesthetic qualities of private development and improve public accessibility to art around the City. The basis of the proposal would have all developers of future projects include an expenditure toward art. However, there was disagreement between advocates of the program and some devel-

opers, on whether the square footage of parking structures should be included in the overall square footage of project assessments.

At the General Session of Jan. 12, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann — who chaired a task force that suggested other modifications to the original proposal — suggested breaking the log-jam by having all parking structures that are accessories to buildings not be included when calculating fees. This would basically exclude most parking structures unless they were built as stand alone parking garages.

Under Hoffmann's plan, the

future inclusion of parking structures as part of the fees may be reviewed after the first year. A determining factor would be whether the program generates enough fees, without including most parking structures, to have an impact.

Hoffmann said the entire plan was a good one, but she was hesitant about excluding parking structures even on an experimental basis. "I am skeptical this will work, but I am willing to give it a try."

The plan will come back to the Mayor and Council for possible action at their general session on Jan. 26. **RR**

Local Artists Return to Glenview

Internationally Acclaimed Celtic Musician Sue Richards and Popular Wood Artist Murray Stein Bring Their Talents to Glenview

Working with his hands was something that Rockville resident Murray Stein always wanted to do. So, soon after retiring from his engineering career, Stein tried his hand at woodworking, honing his skills at the Rockville Senior Center's wood shop.

Stein quickly saw his work capturing awards at local art festivals, and later garnering acclaim in national magazines and earning spots in collections around the United States, Germany and Israel.

Now, some 12 years later, Stein's wood art will be displayed at Glenview Mansion during the month of February. Exhibiting in the Gallery at the Mansion during February are artists Aylene Fallah's mixed media and Abby Freeman's installation.

To kick off the February exhibits, another internationally acclaimed artist from Rockville will provide musical entertainment for the Sunday Afternoon Concert Series beginning at 2 p.m. on Feb. 1.

Four-time National Scottish harp champion Sue Richards will perform with highly esteemed hammered dulcimer

player Maggie Sansone. Each artist has earned countless awards, glowing critical acclaim and has performed for prestigious audiences at the Kennedy Center and for President Bill Clinton.

"When these two dynamic musicians perform, tickets can sell for a very respectable price," said Rockville Arts Program Coordinator Kathleen Moran.

Similar to Stein, Richards said she did not tap into her fullest potential until later in life. Richards said she "seriously" returned to music in her 40s.

"I never expected I would end up a musician," she said. "My heart's desire when I was 10 was to be a cartoonist for Walt Disney."

February will indeed be a proud month for local arts in Rockville. One of Stein's most popular and intricate pieces will be back from a Texas exhibit in time for Glenview Mansion. "Serenity" was featured in "American Woodturner" for its detail, beauty and message. Typical of Stein's art, "Serenity," which took about four months

to complete, is deeply symbolic in nature.

Stein also hopes to exhibit other pedestal pieces, wall hangings and mobiles.

Many might recognize Stein's name – for multiple reasons. In addition to his art – which Stein said also includes pen and ink, pottery and other mediums – Stein is a member of the Senior Citizen's Commission, has been active in senior politics, and is a volunteer with the Connection Resource Bank and other organizations.

"Not only is Murray a talented artist," said Lorraine Schack, Rockville Senior Center Social Service Coordinator, "Murray is a talented human being. His dedication to this Center and to the community is an asset to this City. I'm excited to see his art return to Glenview Mansion."

All February exhibits and performances are free and open to the public through March 2. The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. The Rockville Arts Hotline is 240-314-5006. For more information, contact Moran at 240-314-8682. **RR**



Two Rockville artists (Murray Stein, pictured at top; Sue Richards, bottom right) will be on hand as part of the many offerings at Glenview Mansion during the month of February. Among the art work on exhibit will be Stein's 'Serenity' (pictured bottom left).



Games, crafts, snacks, D.J. music, plus more will be part of the Twinbrook Family Valentine's Dance on Feb. 13. Last year's dance (shown above) was a hit with children of all ages.

Family Valentine's Dance

Break out those dancing shoes. The staff of the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center is hosting the second annual Family Valentine's Dance on Friday, Feb. 13, for all ages.

"We had a great time last year," said Twinbrook Supervisor Martha Coester. "About 150 people came and it was so much fun that we had to do it again this year."

Last year's event featured games, group dances, snacks, crafts, D.J. music and more. This year, Coester and her staff, including Assistant Supervisor Kelley Day, will feature the same types of fun.

"Seeing all of the kids come in

and just have a good time for Valentine's Day is even more fun for the adults," Day said. "The staff dresses up in costume and we really try to make the dance special."

Last year's event was popular with families and young children, but children of all ages are welcome, as games, crafts and events will appeal to all children.

For members of the Center, the event is free. For non-members the cost is \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-residents. The dance will run from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The Twinbrook Recreation Center (240-314-8830) is located at 12920 Twinbrook Parkway in Rockville. **RR**

City Celebrates MLK Day

Two Awards Presented Amidst Entertainment, Historic Tribute

Highlighting the 32nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration before a large crowd at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre were two award presentations honoring Christopher Kroeker and John Miers for their commitment to basic civil rights in Rockville.

This year's celebration honored the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kan., with an insightful and historic perspective of education in the 1940s and 50s by Nina H. Clarke.

Kojo Nnamdi, award winning host of the "Kojo Nnamdi Show" on WAMU-FM 88.5 and the "Evening Exchange" on WHUT-TV, followed with a powerful keynote speech that focused on the current education situation in the United States.

Kroeker, a senior at Richard Montgomery High School, was the winner of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Youth Award for his work toward promoting human relations. Kroeker is the chair of the Richard Montgomery Human Relations group that raises awareness of human relations issues.

Winning the F. Michael Taff Award was John Miers, the vice-



Alligator recording artists Phil Wiggins and John Cephas provided musical entertainment during this year's MLK celebration.

chair of the Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities. Among his countless contributions, Miers has worked tirelessly to improve transportation for people with disabilities and stricter enforcement of disability parking laws. Miers has addressed accessibility issues in Rockville by working with the ADA committee to improve curb cuts and sidewalks.

"We in the City are so grateful to have such amazing individuals," said Janet Kelley, the City's liaison to the Rockville Human Rights Commission, which spon-

sored the event along with the Mayor and Council. "John and Christopher, as well as the other talented nominees, do so much for our community that honoring them is the least we could do."

Alligator recording artists John Cephas and Phil Wiggins wowed the audience with their foot-stomping harmonica and guitar playing talents, while the Tappers with Attitude Youth Ensemble and Richard Montgomery High School's Human Relations/ CHARACTER COUNTS! theatre troupe provided a youthful, yet mature perspective during the show. **RR**

In Brief

Two Free Citizen Police Academies

Ever wondered what it takes to be a police officer? Ever wonder why the police do certain things?

The Rockville City Police Department is offering two free Citizen Police Academies beginning March 2 for residents over 16 years of age.

The Senior Citizens Police Academy will be held on Tuesdays through April 6 from 1-3 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center. The Citizens Police Academy will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. each Tuesday through April 20 at Glenview Mansion.

Both academies will provide the public with a more comprehensive understanding of what is required to help officers perform their duties effectively. The Senior Citizens Police Academy will focus specifically on issues related to senior safety. Transportation will be provided by the Senior Center for senior residents of Rockville.

Community Services Officer Jan Seilhamer is currently accepting students at 240-314-8922.

CALL **240-314-8922** FOR INFO

Free Tax Prep Help

The City of Rockville, with members of the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, will provide free income tax preparation assistance for low-to-moderate income residents and senior citizens.

The service is available by appointment only from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays through April 13 at 32 Courthouse Sq. in downtown Rockville.

For information or to make an appointment, call 240-314-8310. Homebound residents also will receive assistance. Seniors should call 301-468-4179.

CALL **240-314-8604** FOR INFO

Good Neighbor Nominations

Applications are currently being accepted for the second annual Rockville "Good Neighbor Awards."

Rockville residents who after July of 2003 made a significant contribution to the community, a neighbor or to the City in general may be eligible.

To nominate an adult or youth for an award, or for more information, contact Dwayne Jenkins.

CALL **240-314-8343** FOR INFO

Rockville University For Senior Citizens

For seven weeks, Rockville seniors will have the chance to learn more about their City during free classes as part of a special section of Rockville University, offered through the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

Rockville University for Seniors will begin on March 16 and classes will take place each Tuesday through April 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Rockville Senior Center. Call to register.

CALL **240-314-8343** FOR INFO

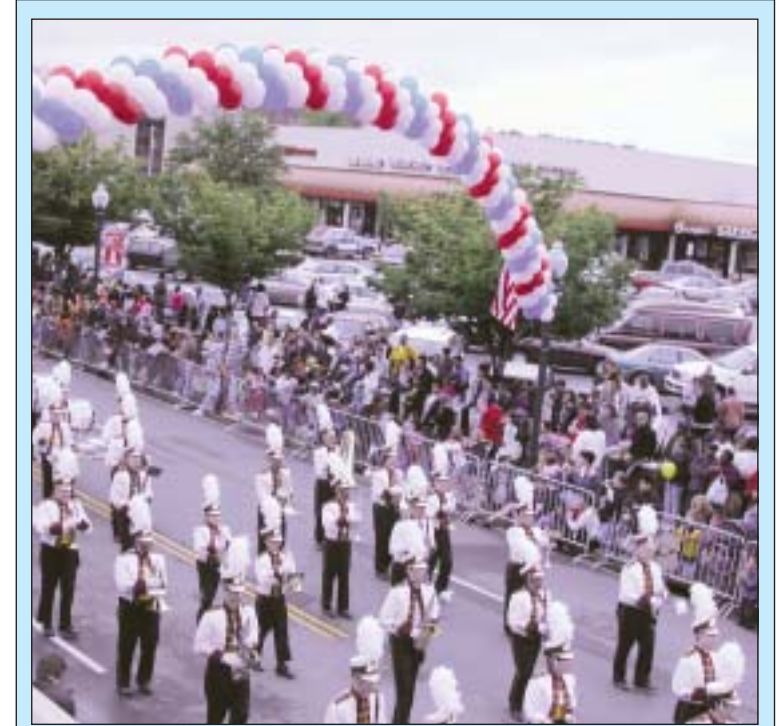
Bridal Expo 2004

Glenview Mansion will hold its Fifth Annual Bridal Expo on Sunday, Feb. 8, from 12 noon until 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Multiple wedding vendors will be in attendance. Call for details or to reserve a ticket. Check the Glenview Mansion Web page at www.rockvillemd.gov for a virtual tour of the Expo.

CALL **240-314-8660** FOR INFO

Rent Garden Plots

Community garden plots will be available starting Feb. 26 for Rockville residents and



CALLING ALL FLOATS AND BANDS... *Rockville's Special Events Department is currently accepting parade applications for the 2004 Memorial Day Parade, which will be held on Monday, May 31. The City is specifically seeking marching bands and float entries for the prestigious parade that attracts thousands of spectators to Town Center as part of the week-end-long Hometown Holidays celebration. The deadline for applications is April 23. Applications can be downloaded from the City's Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov, under Recreation. Call 240-314-8606 for more information. Pictured above is 2003 parade participant Paint Branch High School Marching Band.*

March 1 for non-residents. The plots are 20-feet by 25-feet and are located in Wootton's Mill Park. The cost is \$25 for residents and \$35 for non-resi-

dents. Call on those dates to reserve a plot. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov for an application.

CALL **240-314-8660** FOR INFO

CITY

7 Ninth Annual African American Heritage Production. "A Change Gon' Come"; 7:30 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. 240-314-8690.

8 Fifth Annual Bridal Expo. Glenview Mansion. 12 noon to 4 p.m. 240-314-8660.

13 Twinbrook Family Valentine's Dance. Games, crafts, family fun. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Twinbrook Recreation Center. Free for members. Cost for non-members is \$5 RES/\$7 NR. 240-314-8830.

16 Fun Volleyball Tournament. Open tournament. Ages 16-over. 1-4 p.m. Call for details. Free for members. Cost for non-members is \$5 RES/\$7 NR. 240-314-8830.

21 Off Leash Dog Testing. Tests to see if City dogs can be walked without a leash. Call to register as date is subject to change. Middle Lane Parking Lot. 240-314-8930.

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006.

1-Mar. 2 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery features "The Space Between Silence and Memories" by Aylene Fallah, mixed media, and "Current Preoccupations" by Abby Freeman, mixed media. Opening reception, Sunday, Feb. 1, 1-4 p.m. Artist Talk, Thursday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m. Also showing at Glenview Mansion is Rockville's Murray Stein. 240-314-8682.

february

RES = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

1 Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert features Maggie Sansone and Sue Richards for a Celtic concert: Hammered dulcimer and Celtic harp, 2-3 p.m. Free. 240-314-8682.

1 Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park. Free. 240-314-8682.

3 Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Tryouts. Students in grades 4 through 9. Call for details. 240-314-8682.

29 2004 Rockville Student Art Show's Registration/Delivery. 2-4 p.m. Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park. 240-314-8682.

29 Rockville Concert Band Concert. 3 p.m. Free. 240-314-8681.

NATURE CENTER

All programs at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Phone: 240-314-8770.

1 Groundhog Day Celebration. 2-4 p.m. All ages. No fees or reservations.

11 Tiny Tot Walk: Owl Babies. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 18 months to 2 years. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

11 Tyke Hike: Owl Babies. 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

14 Winter Beach Walk. 12 noon-7 p.m. Ages 18-over. \$20 RES/\$25 NR.

19 Carrion Delight. 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-6. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

calendar of events

20 Endangered Species: Recovery and Demise. 7-8:30 p.m. Ages 16-over. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

24 Penguins, Puffins and Phun. 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-6. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

26 Profusion of Peepers. 5-6:30 p.m. Ages 7-over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

27 Big Cats. 4-5 p.m. Ages 4-over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

SENIORS

All programs at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800.

2-18 e-Bay: A Thorough Understanding. 1-3 p.m. Registration required. \$75 MEM/\$85 NM.

3-17 Understanding Windows. 1-3 p.m. Registration required. \$25 MEM/\$30 NM.

3-17 Money to Last a Lifetime. Tuesdays. 10:15-11:15 a.m. Registration required. Free.

4 February Birthday Party. 1:30-3 p.m. Register by Jan. 30. Free.

5 Veterans' Group - Safety and Security Issues. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Register by Jan. 30. Free.

11 Etched Mirror & Mosaic Frame. 10:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. \$7 MEM/\$10 NM. Register by Feb. 4.

11-Mar. 3 Hand Chime Choir. 3-4 p.m. Register by Jan. 28. Free.

18 Classical Music with Murray Stein. 1-2:30 p.m. Register by Feb. 13. Free.

18 The Listing Process, Step by Step. Wednesdays. 10:15-11:30 a.m. Free.

18-29 Conversational Spanish for Beginners. Wednesdays and Mondays. 1:30-3 p.m. Registration required. \$40 MEM/\$45 NM.

19,26 Glass Fusing Jewelry & Candle Guard. 12-2 p.m. \$45 MEM/\$56 NM. Register by Feb. 5.

19 Managing Advanced Illness. 1-2 p.m. Free.

23 Clarify Computer Concepts. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Registration required. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM.

23 History Lesson—Undying Glory. 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Register by Feb. 13. Free.

24 Lab Tests and What They Mean. 1-2 p.m. Free.

24-Mar. 4 Internet. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Registration required. \$20 MEM/\$25 NM.

24,26 Windows - Paint. 1-3 p.m. Registration required. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM.

27 Munch N Learn-Ecoscaping. 10:15-11:45 a.m. Register by Feb. 13. Free.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings at City Hall unless noted otherwise.

7 Board of Appeals. 9:30 a.m.

10 Human Services Advisory Commission. 7:30 p.m. Cottage at Glenview Mansion.

11 Cultural Arts Commission. 7 p.m.

11 Planning Commission. 7 p.m.

17 Rockville Seniors Inc. 1 p.m. Senior Center Board Room.

18 Sign Review Board. 4 p.m.

19 Historic District Commission. 7 p.m.

19 Senior Citizens Commission. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Senior Center.

19 Rockville Sister City Corporation. 7:30 p.m.

19 Rockville Housing Enterprises (Housing Authority). 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Board Room, 14 Moore Dr.

25 Human Rights Commission. 7:30 p.m.

25 Planning Commission. 7 p.m.

26 Recreation and Park Advisory Board. 7 p.m.

Rockville Special Events: YOUR OPINION WANTED

Let the City know how special events can be transformed with the redevelopment of Town Center. Take the survey online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call **240-314-5022**.

Rockville Up Close: **HDC Makes Past Part of the Future**

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

One of the primary goals of the Mayor and Council in recent years has been to strengthen Rockville’s neighborhoods, particularly through preserving the historic character of older neighborhoods. The City’s Historic District Commission (HDC) has played an integral role toward attaining this goal, helping to ensure that historically significant areas of the city are not lost to modern development.

The five-member commission, established in 1966, meets once a month to review exterior changes to historic buildings and evaluate candidates for historic designation. All members of the



HDC Commissioner Craig Moloney speaks with former City Manager Mark Pentz.

commission, who are appointed by the Mayor and Council, are qualified by their knowledge or training in fields such as history, architecture, preservation or urban design.

“We maintain a variety of expertise so that there is a range of perspectives in the group,” said Craig Moloney, one of the commissioners. “Everyone is very dedicated and works to bring valuable knowledge to the group, which makes it extremely worthwhile.”

Buildings that are designated historic are eligible for Maryland and Montgomery County tax credits for maintenance and improvements. Federal tax credits are available for income-producing historic properties.

The increasing demand for land in Rockville has caused some residents to seek demolition permits for these homes so that new, larger buildings can be built in their place.

“There is a recent trend for

many people to seek demolition permits for homes in the West End neighborhood near I-270 because many of these houses are older and much smaller than houses being built today,” said Judy Christensen, a City preservation planner.

The commission is working toward preserving buildings that may not be in previously designated historic districts, but may have characteristics that could lead to historic designation.

An historic designation may prevent demolition of the property. However, it does not prevent the owner from making changes of appropriate design, such as additions, to the building. The HDC must approve any proposed exterior changes to properties with historic designations.

For more information on the Historic District Commission, contact Christensen at 240-314-8230. **RR**

— Contributed by Mary Robbins

Volunteer Time: Leaders In Training

There are infinite ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations that could use assistance by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” will highlight a different volunteer opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

The temperatures may be chilly, but it is already time for teenagers around Rockville to plan for their summer. For ambitious teenagers, the City offers an opportunity to learn responsibility, gain Montgomery County Public School Service Learning credit and to have fun as a volunteer in Rockville’s summer camp program.

Every summer, dozens of Rockville’s 13-to-15 year olds pack up their swimsuits and lunches and head off to camp. What makes this group of teenagers unique is that they are no longer campers – they are camp leaders, known as L.I.T.s, (Leaders in Training). Some of their time will be spent leading 5-year-olds in arts and crafts or directing fifth graders in activities such as pottery or sports such as basketball and swimming.

“The program is designed to prepare teens for leadership opportunities in the future,” said Nina Herndon, Rockville’s director of teen programs. “It also is a productive way to spend their summer vacation.”

Volunteers are encouraged to stay in the program for at least two weeks and may continue working for up to seven weeks. These hours can be used toward the 60 hours of community service that are required for high school graduation in Maryland.

“I really enjoyed volunteering at pottery camp,” said former L.I.T. Liana Montes. “I was able to go on to work as a paid staff member when I was 16. I learned a lot.”

Applications will be available on March 1 and are due by April 5. For more information call 240-314-8634 or visit

www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

— Contributed by Mary Robbins

Up for Historic Designation: 419 Reading Ave.

The latest property in Rockville up for historic designation is 419 Reading Ave.

To be eligible for historic designation in the City, a building must meet certain criteria of architectural, cultural, historical or archeological significance. Generally they are at least 50 years old.

The property at 419 Reading Ave. was built around 1896 and is owned by Robert Jones and Kathleen Hayes. The resolution for designation was introduced to the Mayor and Council at the General Session of Jan. 12.

As of printing of this issue of *Rockville Reports*, the resolution was scheduled for approval on Jan. 26.

According to the Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, “The house located at 419 Reading Avenue in Rockville conveys an architectural massing, design, and setting that is historically significant for its representation of style, place, and period of construction. The house’s construction and land development gives evidence to the eastern expansion of Rockville following the con-




419 Reading Avenue.

struction of the B&O Metropolitan Railroad in March in 1873. ...”

Properties like 419 Reading would not be built today. Historically designating properties with such unique character provides tax-saving incentives to properly maintain and preserve the building and site.

Judy Christensen, Preservation Planner for the City, reminds anyone owning or purchasing properties 50 years or older to contact the preservation office for assistance and information at 240-314-8230 before undertaking radical changes. **RR**

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Caregivers—Adult Homeless	Rockville City Government	Annual Report	Caregivers—Adult Homeless	Exploring Past	Annual Report	Annual Report
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼
9 am	▼	Martin Luther King Celebration	Diversity in the City	Martin Luther King Celebration	Diversity in the City	Martin Luther King Celebration	▼
10 am	▼	▼	Rockville City Government	▼	Afr. Am. Heritage/after Feb. 17	▼	▼
10:30 am	▼	▼	Exploring Past	▼	▼	▼	▼
11 am	Cityline	Annual Report	Preserving the Past	Annual Report	▼	Annual Report	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
4 pm	Annual Report	▼	Annual Report	Martin Luther King Celebration	▼	Martin Luther King Celebration	▼
4:30 pm	City Gov't	Annual Report	City Gov't	▼	Diversity in the City ▼	▼	Annual Report
5 pm	Explore Past	Diversity in the City ▼	Explore Past	▼	▼	▼	Diversity in the City ▼
5:30 pm	TV Bulletin Board	▼	TV Bulletin Board	▼	Responsive and Responsible: Rockville City Government	▼	▼
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council/New Time	Martin Luther King Celebration	Planning Commission ▼	Diversity in the City	Mayor & Council/New Time	Martin Luther King Celebration
8 pm	▼	▼	▼	▼	Annual Report	▼	▼
8:30 pm	▼	▼	▼	▼	City Gov't	▼	▼
9 pm	▼	▼	Annual Report	▼	Explore Past	▼	Annual Report
9:30 pm	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Diversity in the City ▼	Diversity in the City ▼	Diversity in the City ▼	Annual Report	Annual Report	Diversity in the City ▼	Annual Report
11:30 pm	▼	▼	▼	Preserving the Past	Preserving the Past	▼	Exploring Rockville's Past



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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.